

TOP SECRET

14 November 1950

SUBJECT: First Team Drop into HBPixie, 11 - 12 November 1950

TO: Chief, VLKiva
Washington, D. C.

INFO: Chief, VLKiva
[] []

Attn: []

Attn: [] []

Reference: BGFiend

Memorandum with two attachments concerning the third
operation of the covert plane is forwarded herewith.

3 Encl:

1. Memo, in trip.
2. Equipment list, in trip.
3. Over-lay, single cy - Under Separate Cover

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHOD EXEMPTION 3828
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

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MEMORANDUM

13 November 1950

Subject: First Team Drop into HBPixie, 11-12 November 1950

To: []

From: []

— ggr

1. Two parties of Pixies were dropped, with initial equipment bundles, into pre-selected drop zones inside HBPixie on the night of 11 - 12 November 1950. The first party, consisting of four men, was dropped in Identity (1) from 1000 feet above the terrain (in the center of the valley) at 2350. The second party consisting of five men -- including a break-away team -- was dropped on a flat of the north slope of Identity (2), from 1200 feet above the terrain at 0045.

2. The entire flight was made in clear weather (upper winds north to north-east, smooth air, a void of turbulence even below ridge-heights, no surface wind) and in utter blackness. This was a moonless period and only rivers were visible in the mountainous, unlighted and uninhabited regions. Such a condition made the identification of precise drop zones notably difficult, although not unsuccessful, particularly in the absence of recognition signals from any ground reception committee.

3. Besides two general and specific intelligence briefings, the drop parties were briefed before departure by the aircraft commander on the plan for approaching the DZ, probable altitudes of drops, direction of drop-run and when the equipment bundles would be discharged.

4. Departure from LCFlake was at 1940 hours. Pixieland was entered at 2227 hours at the junction of the TPRoach border and the sea at the southern extremity of Identity (3) valley (south of Identity (4)) at 6000 feet. The weather was clear: no clouds, no moon, visibility good, and the lights of Identity (4) were distantly visible shortly after entry. The course was northeasterly in a straight line to the Identity (5) at an approximate point where it is joined by the Identity (6). (Note: In the complete darkness ground check-points were unrecognizable -- a matter of black sameness and all streams looked alike. Hilly countryside, well dotted with peaks of 1500 meters, made the Identity (5) visible intermittently, and best when the aircraft was directly overhead.) The target area was reached at 2251 hours. When the (5) was positively identified the flight proceeded west of the river until the village of (7) was unequivocally identified. From this check-point the flight returned to the (5)-(6) junction and turned north to the pre-selected DZ. The smaller stream and the ground configurations orientated the (6) valley which was approached from the north, obviating the danger of a steep pull-up

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after the drop

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after the drop was effected. The aircraft made two circles, sweeping left turns that extended south of the village of (8), and on the second north-south run the first team jumped. Bodies and bundles were dropped in a single run which time permitted and which prevented a wide scattering of both. The identity (9) team: 4 men; 3 bundles.

5. From the general area of the first target the aircraft climbed westerly over the (5), set its southerly course from the village (7) at 7000 feet, and flew parallel to the planned course. Near (10) the craft flew an 80° heading to the second target. Again in the unlighted and unpopulated areas only the tops of the hills were seen clearly. A recent snowfall gave them bold relief. According to the navigator, the drop zone was absolutely unrecognizable making it necessary to circle the general area for nearly an hour. Finally, the 1434 meter hill south of the DZ and the (11) river junction was identified. It followed that the ridge east of the DZ was identified and the craft made its preparatory manoeuvre for the drop. The pin-pointed area was a flat on the north slope of the (2), adjacent to the previously picked area and was a DZ previously considered. The approach was a right turn around the mountain so that the party was dropped from west to east at 1200 feet above the ground. Time: 0045. A second circle was made to discharge the equipment bundles. Identity (12) team: 5 men; 4 bundles. Note: This five-man team included a break-away team of two men who will operate as a single unit when the ground situation permits. The equipment was so issued and arranged as to allow for the operation of two separate parties.

6. The course out was west in a line north of (10) and (13) straight to the sea; altitude 7000 feet. The flight departed the Pixieland coast at 0150 and landed in LCFlake at 0345 hours. Total time of flight: 8 hours 10 minutes. Total time over Pixieland: 3 hours 23 minutes.

7. There were no flares, no AA fire, no interception, and seemingly no detection. The over-all course avoided city areas, and lights were visible only from a distance. (For example, (14) was lighted on the way in but darkened on the way out, probably due to the lateness of the hour.)

8. There were no subsequent ground signals seen from the parties; a actually the pitch-darkness of the night prevented the aircraft crew from seeing either body or equipment parachutes open. The plane remained over the targets two to three minutes at the most, hardly enough time for the jumpers to descend, recover, and signal as instructed in the briefings.

9. The aircraft crew reported morale of the drop parties especially high. Their physical condition was good, particularly in view of the fact that out of three flights this was the first flight in smooth air and during which no one became air sick. During the journey there was normal curiosity of ground scenery below and there was normal, nervous excitement when the

static lines

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static lines were fastened and the door opened. In both cases the leader of each team was pushed through the door. All followed very quickly -- the first party better and more smoothly than the second. Any momentary balking was purely an instinctive reaction. It should be said that the aircraft crew, richly experienced, was generally satisfied with the whole operation.

10. Enclosed is an over-lay of the course flown and a list of equipment dropped or carried in this operation. The over-lay of the radio transmission areas is included in a separate report of the intelligence briefing given these teams.

2 Encls:

1. Over-lay, 1 cy
2. Equipment list, 1 cy

cc:

() - 1 cy
ZRMetal - 3 cys
() - 1 cy
File - 1 cy

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List of Equipment carried by "PIXIE" Personnel:

No. 1 - on Person

Main chute
Reserve chute
Sub - M.G.
Pistol & magazine
3 Magazines ammo (M.G.)
Compass
Flashlight
Commando knife
Jack-knife
Notebook (2)
Automatic pencil
Ball-point pen
"Pixie" money (1000 Leks for each man; 1500 Leks 2 Leaders)
34 Gold Napoleons each man; 48 Gold Napoleons
each 3 Leaders.
"Commo" Pad (time-table)
Pair gloves
Wrist watch
Cigarette lighter
Scarf
Leather helmet
Snow suit
Boots
Socks
Trousers
Long underwear
Shirt
Wool sweater
Handkerchief
Map (Pixie)
Identification cards

No. 2 - Individual Ruck-sack

Jacket
Shirt
Pr. wool underwear
3 Prs. socks
4 Handkerchiefs
1 Towel
Toilet articles
4 days rations

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REASON

No. 2 - Individual Ruck-sack (cont'd)

4 Flashlight bulbs
Binoculars
Radio batteries
Gun solvent
Gun oil
Gun patches
1 Spool thread
5 Needles
9 Safety pins
1 Carton cigarettes
1 can Lighter fluid
Extra flints, wicks
1 Morphine surette
Vitamin pills
1 Bottle sulfa
DDT powder
500 Rds. Ammunition
Flashlight batteries
Water-proof matches
1/2 loaf bread
First-Aid kit

List of Equipment dropped by Aerial Delivery Containers:

"RED" Pixie Team

1st Bundle:

2 Loaded Ruck-sacks
2 Blankets

2nd Bundle:

2 Loaded Ruck-sacks
2 Blankets

3rd Bundle:

✓ 2 Blankets
✓ 2 Radios
2 Pup-tents
2 Pick-mattocks
✓ 1 Radio receiver

"GREEN" Pixie Team

1st Bundle:

2 Loaded Ruck-sacks
2 Blankets

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"GREEN" Pixie Team (cont'd)

2nd Bundle:

2 Loaded Ruck-sacks
2 Blankets

3rd Bundle:

1 Loaded Ruck-sack
2 Blankets
✓ 2 Radios

4th Bundle:

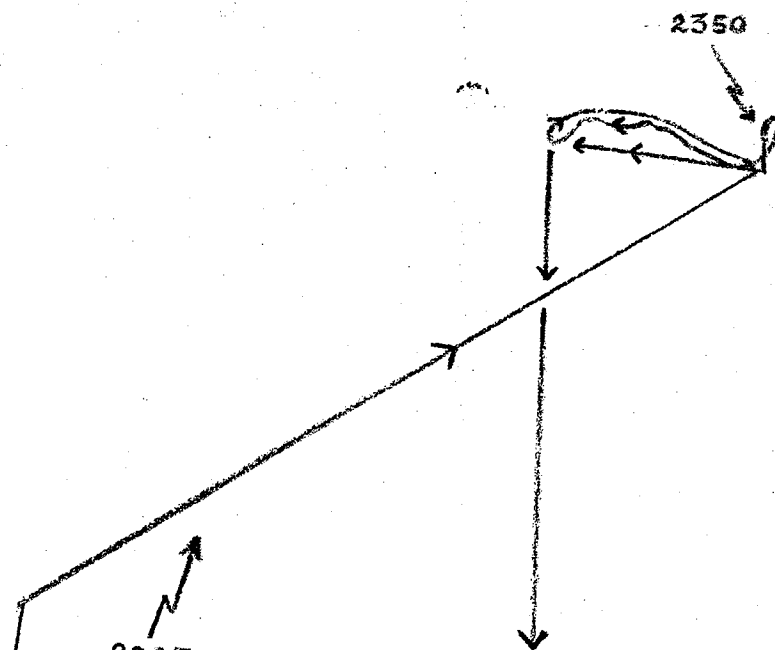
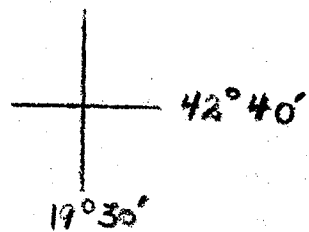
✓ 2 Blankets
✓ 2 Radios
3 Pup-tents
3 Pick-mattocks
1 Radio receiver

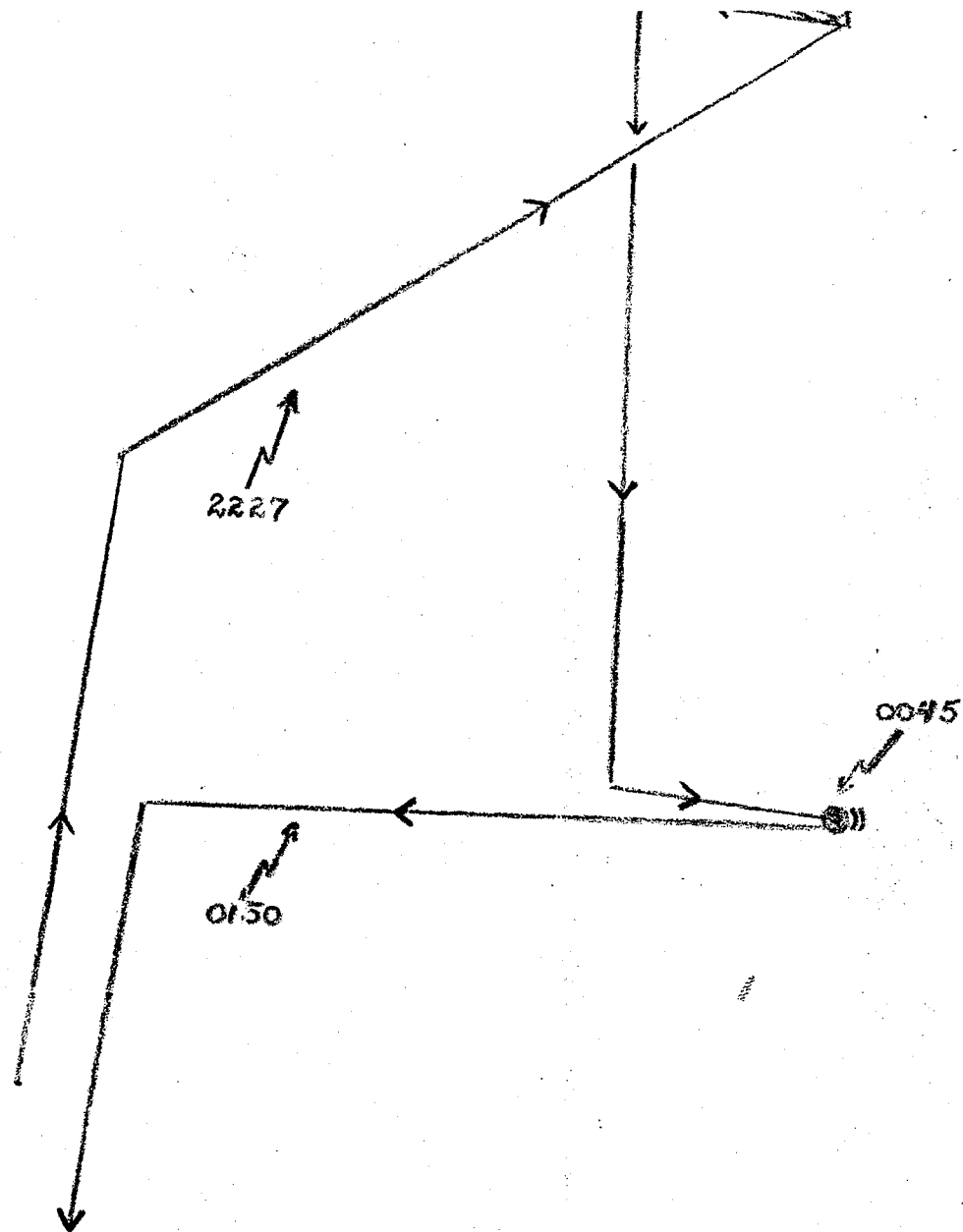
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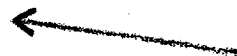
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MAP



MAP

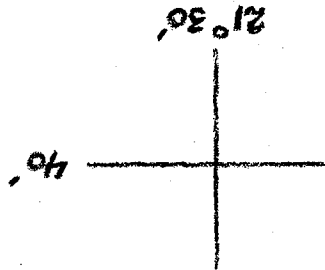
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SCALE 1:845,000

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LEGEND
ROUTE FLOWN —
TARGET —
ANNOTATIONS —
REPEATED PASSES (O)



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